

The Washington Times

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Washington, D. C., December 27, 1895.

The Times

Is the Only

Washington Newspaper

That dares to tell the truth
when dealing with all subjects
of public interest, that's one
reason why the people like it,
hence

Its Circulation

Is larger by many thousands
than any other daily newspaper
published in the District of
Columbia.

The circulation of The Times for
the week ending December 22, 1895,
was as follows:
Monday, Dec. 16, 35,239
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 35,183
Wednesday, Dec. 18, 34,054
Thursday, Dec. 19, 35,041
Friday, Dec. 20, 35,041
Saturday, Dec. 21, 36,263
Sunday, Dec. 22, 32,975

Total, 237,000
A correct statement of the daily
circulation of THE WASHINGTON
TIMES for the week ending December
22, 1895, and that all the copies were
actually sold or mailed for a valuable
consideration and delivered to bona
fide purchasers or subscribers; also,
that none of them were returned or
remain in the office undelivered.

SUBSCRIBED AND FORWARDED TO
this 23rd day of December, A. D. 1895,
ERNEST G. THOMPSON,
Notary Public.

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER.

Gives All the News Every Twelve
Hours for Fifty Cents a Month.

The rapid growth of The Times clearly
indicates that the Washington public
recognizes the difference between a newspaper
that boldly attacks abuses that injure and
destroy the peace and comfort of communities
and those that lay claim to popularity
on the ground of their inoffensiveness. In
its efforts to defend public interests, The
Times has spared neither friend nor foe.
It has denounced monopoly as freely and
fully as it did the money sharks who preyed
upon the poor by extorting usurious rates
of interest. It demands cheaper gas, electric
light and telephone service, and will
continue to urge Congress to grant this
needed relief. It opposes the bond bill
because that measure would increase the
burden of debt to enrich a few individuals,
and in the name of public decency it insists
that the Commissioners cease to protect the
Division from prosecution.

In the short period of its existence The
Times can proudly point to the accomplish-
ment of more public good through the in-
fluence of its columns than has been done
during the life of all the other Washington
papers combined, and it now calls upon
readers to substantiate that assertion.
What other newspaper has advocated cheap-
er gas, lower street car fares, a riddance
of public monopoly, or any other reform
that affects its advertising columns? It is
true that an occasional demand has been
made for better telephone service, but a
selfish reason might be found for that ex-
ceptional request.

Nor is the fact that The Times is the only
real newspaper friend to the people its
sole claim to their patronage. It gives
nearly double the reading matter each day
for the same price that any other Wash-
ington daily does, and its morning and evening
editions are filled with the latest and
best information. Not an item or a line of
news is duplicated or republished in any of
its succeeding editions, and for FIFTY
CENTS A MONTH the morning, evening
and Sunday Times will be delivered to any
address in the city. Try it for a month
and become a convert to the people's paper.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

113a That It Is Looked for by Astron-
omers Everywhere.
Pittsburg Dispatch.

Among the many curious legends and su-
perstitions connected with this time of the
year is that concerning the Star of Beth-
lehem and its possible reappearance.

The idea that it will appear in the
second chapter of Matthew as being looked
for now by astronomers is entirely an er-
roneous one, and rests upon a misapprehen-
sion of the fact that it is really a comet
which has been perpetuated through so
many centuries. The only authentic fact
is that in November, 1572, a new star of
great splendor suddenly appeared in the
constellation Cassiopeia, occupying a po-
sition which had previously been blank. This
extraordinary phenomenon is a matter of
history, being observed by the Danish as-
tronomer Tycho Brahe, and, in fact, by all
the scientists of the time. Its magnitude
increased until it is said to have surpassed
even Jupiter in brightness, and finally be-
came visible in the daytime. It retained its
greatest magnitude but for a very short
time, when it commenced to diminish in
brightness, changing from white to yellow,
then to reddish, and finally it became
faint and blue, and so diminishing by degrees
it vanished from sight in March, 1574,
and has never since been seen.

There is a tradition, said by different
authorities, with more or less vagueness,
that similar appearances took place in this
constellation in the years 1384 and 1445.
These three dates, 1572, 1264, and 945,
indicate periods of 308 and 319 years, or a
mean of 313 years. Counting back this
brings us very close to the beginning of the
Christian era, though now with sufficient
exactness to make the coincidence very
striking or convincing. Reckoning forward
the star should have reappeared about
1885. But this period, by the figures quoted,
is a very variable time, and some counts have
given up hope yet, and are still looking
for it. But, as it is now ten years overdue,
it will doubtless soon have to be given up
for lost.

Of course, no reputable astronomer
takes any stock in the idea at all, simply
because there is no good evidence for the
1264 and 945 phenomena. But the idea
is certainly a fascinating one, and many
have believed in it just because they
wanted to believe. It is not the only error
so perpetuated.

A Little Weak-Cider Advice.

The matchless (?) wisdom displayed by
Senator Wilson in his published advice on
the monetary question cannot fail to
elicit the admiration of the financial world.
As his mind turns back to his elder-
hood days, this Senatorial newspaper
statesman grows from among the bosoms
of long-suffering ether barrels a simile
on imports that does credit to his farmer
life. Said he in illustrating the neces-
sity of a law providing that import duties
be paid in gold: "We cannot long keep
a barrel full of cider if we let out cider
at the spigot and pour in water at the
bung, and no more can we keep up the
gold reserve when we pay out gold ex-
clusively and take in greenbacks and
silver."

But the thoughts of the learned Senator
on the financial question are like his
diluted cider—too weak in wisdom to
give him rank as a statesman and yet
sufficiently tinged with common sense to
prevent his immediate removal to fool
paradise. It has always been the policy

Was It an Act of Patriotism or Necessity?

It may be regarded by some as an act
of patriotism to lay down the convictions of a
lifetime and break bread in the enemy's
camp, but circumstances make such a sur-
render necessary and Grover Cleveland
fully rounds out his remarkable career by
sanctioning the passage of a high tariff
law to increase government revenues. The
democratic objections to such a measure
in the House indicate that Mr. Cleveland's
party is not with him, but the bill has
passed the House and will pass the Senate
and probably become a law as did the Wil-
son bill, without the President's signature.

It is useless now to argue for tariff re-
form or to assert that the Wilson tariff
would provide a revenue of \$30,000,000
more than did the McKinley calamity.
The fact that the new tariff failed to in-
crease revenues under the stress of a business
depression is only too plainly apparent, and
while it may have done so in times of
prosperity, the law was a failure in the
present emergency, and must be amended
on the lines proposed in the bill now under
consideration. Congress with the consent
and advice of President Cleveland proposes
to rescue the administration from its
financial dilemma, and in doing so will
publish to the world that the man of
destiny has met his political Waterloo.

A retrospection of the present adminis-
tration will determine the justice of this

Taking No Step Backward.

Notwithstanding the regularity with
which defeats and routs of the Cuban in-
surgents are announced by the dispatches
edited at the censor's office in Havana
the patriot army has rapidly advanced
toward that city and, if most recent ac-
counts can be credited, is within easy
marching distance of the chief city and
capital of the island. Neither the out-
numbering and admirably equipped forces
under the command of Captain General
Campos nor yet the hundred miles of
fortifications thrown up to check the in-
surgents' progress, have been able to hold
them in check.

This points to one of two conclusions,
either Campos is a very poor strategist or
Gomez and Maceo are most superior ones.
It is certain that they have outgeneraled
him in every direction. The slight defeats
which they appear to suffer at times are
really more like victories, for, by means
of this desultory fighting, they are re-
tarding the Spanish army, while their
own push forward toward Havana. The
report that Campos is simply laying a trap
for them and allowing them to rush on
to the capital so as to get them between
his army and the garrison, and then crush
them is rather "fishy." Gomez and
Maceo have proved themselves too clever
as strategists to be likely to fall into that
trap. It is not probable that they are

Bicycle Stealing a Mania.

Larceny of bicycles appears to have as-
sumed the proportions of an epidemic.
Thefts of wheels are reported to the police
daily in nearly every large city. Wash-
ington is no exception to the rule. Hardly
a day passes but the loss of a "bicycle" is
reported. Yet frequent as are these thefts,
almost as frequent is the recovery of the
stolen wheels. One of the several bicy-
cle insurance companies recently issued a
statement showing that of one hundred
stolen bicycles only three remained unre-
covered.

This fact is accounted for by the cir-
cumstance that all wheels are numbered
and consequently easily traced, as each
sale is registered at the factory, by the
jobber and by the retailer. It is all
the more astonishing, therefore, that any-
body should steal a bicycle, knowing that
the theft will be speedily discovered and

Not a Bad Suggestion.

As a compromise between planting a
garbage crematory near the best resi-
dential section of the city and taking it
outside of the city limits altogether Dr. Far-
don's proposition to locate it at some point
on the river front between Eleventh street
and the mouth of Rock Creek is deserving of
consideration. It has at least the merit
of putting the plant where its proximity
could not injure property or rental values
and would not inconvenience or annoy any
considerable number of people. The busi-
ness establishments situated between the
points named would not be materially af-
fected.

No objection can be urged against the
site suggested by Dr. Fardon on the ground
of the lauding distance. In fact, in this
respect it would be rather more advan-

Christian Officials in Armenia.

That much vaunted "pressure of the
Powers," of which a great deal has been
heard since the Turks began their massacres
in Asia Minor, has at last made sufficient
impression upon the sultan to cause the
appointment of Christians as assistant
governors in three Armenian provinces.
Similar appointments may follow in other
provinces, and it is also expected that
Christians may take part in other adminis-
trative departments in Armenia.

With all this, however, there appears to
be no cessation in the slaughter of Ar-
menians at Zeitoun, which has just suc-
ceeded the attack of a large Turkish
force, those of the Armenians that have
not fled to the mountains, have probably
been put to the sword. The ambassadors
in Constantinople have made urgent requests
upon the sultan to prevent the indiscrimi-
nate massacre at Zeitoun, but their repre-
sentations have either come too late or
have been ignored like many others pre-
viously preferred.

There never will be reform or progress
or humanity in the sultan's dominion until
the Turkish empire shall have fallen to
pieces and, if the sultan, the sublime porte,
and the whole wretched outfit become a
memory.

of the Treasury to redeem greenbacks in
gold. They are considered as a paper
substitute for the yellow metal and when
accepted in payment of duties they are
gold to all intents and purposes. There-
fore, his argument, so far as greenbacks
are concerned, amounts to little else in
a figurative sense than mighty poor cider.
For greenbacks are gold in the financial
eye of the government.

The loss of gold to our Treasury, as
has been repeatedly shown, is due to in-
sufficient revenues and to the ease with
which speculators can use greenbacks to
deplete our gold reserve for export pur-
poses. So thoroughly are greenbacks gar-
thered up by exporters that but little paper
currency, except silver certificates, is
in general circulation, and a law such as
Senator Wilson proposes would do little
to relieve the situation. The first thing
to be done is to stop the Treasury deficit.
After that a way to protect the gold re-
serve can readily be found.

Retribution. Instead of standing loyally

by the party that invested him with power
President Cleveland practically turned the
country over to the Republicans by re-
fusing to listen to the advice of party
leaders and by gathering around him a
coterie of mugwumps and corporation
servers. He was elected to abolish trusts
and put an end to the growth of monopoly,
but instead of making practical use of his
celebrated philippic against the "commu-
nism of pett" he encouraged its existence
by appointing an Attorney General known
to be in sympathy with corporate interests.
Then followed the financial breach in the
democratic party, the loss of confidence in
the ability of the administration to carry
the country through the crisis, the enor-
mous increase of public debt, and at last
this tariff surrender to a Republican
Congress.

But it has been a lesson the public will
long remember. It teaches that a country
cannot be run successfully on platitudes
and theories. Long, well-weighed messages
are pleasant to read, but they must be
backed by vigorous business methods to
make them acceptable. If President Cleve-
land's record could be made up from his pub-
lic utterances it would be known in history
as more brilliant than that of all his pre-
decessors, but when judged by his acts—well,
the less said in that connection the better.

THE persistent, but uphill fight being
waged by the younger Senators who
favor changing the rule so that a
majority of the Senate shall be required
to pass legislation, has been a subject of
unpublished incident that occurred last
winter.

A party of Senators were gathered in
one of the corridors of the Senate cham-
ber, and the subject of the rule change
was being discussed. Mr. White, who was one of the party,
outlined his views. Senator Harris of Ten-
nessee, who was also present, said that
Mr. White's short talk only by polling him
the hairs of his Mandarin-like mustache,
jumped to his feet like a sky-rock and the
California Senator flung:

"Do you know what you are?" he said,
walking over to the head of the man from
the Pacific coast and waving his hands im-
moderately. "You are a damned rebel and
simply desire to kick the bed
rocks from under the foundations of this
government."

This seems to be the idea of all the older
Senators, nominally from what section of the
country they come. Any attempt to change
the rule of the Senate is regarded as a re-
volutionary and they see no necessity for
it. While the younger members will make a
vigorous fight it is not believed that their
efforts will meet with much success.

Editor Times: There are two or three
points of observation as to the street ex-
tension project of the city of New Jersey.
The citizens of Washington and I respect-
fully request a little of your valuable space
for a few remarks, principally confined to
the question of the extension of the street
car line to the city of New Jersey. It is a
twelve years resident of that section.

The residents there, especially owners of
their homes, do not wish for the large
extension of the street car line to the city
of New Jersey. The extension of the street
car line to the city of New Jersey is a
project which is being pushed through the
improved portion, which is probably worth
more than a million dollars (whatever we
might receive with the cost of low rails
deducted).

As far as Le Droit Park is concerned there
are a plenty of streets in its improved por-
tion that the laying out of New Jersey
avenue is entirely uncalled for, and would
cause great damage.

We do not object to this project, but we
do object to the extension of the street car
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More to the point than all else, however,
is the contention of The Times that the
proper place for a garbage crematory is
beyond the city limits. There is all the
more force given to this assertion by the
fact that the land required for such a
plant can be purchased much more cheaply
in the rural districts than in the city and
that the greater isolation of residences
would reduce the annoyance caused by the
crematory to a minimum.

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not fled to the mountains, have probably
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CLOCKROOM AND GALLERY

When Mr. Crisp yesterday, as a minority
member of the Ways and Means Com-
mittee, complained that the Democrats
had been afforded no opportunity to ex-
amine and testify on the pending revenue
bill, Mr. Bowers created some commo-
tion in the neighborhood by interpolating
after the word views the phrase, "If they
have any."

Mr. Crisp did not pause to rebuke or
reply to the interruption, but proceeded
with his argument.

SCOTLAND YARDE yesterday warned
up to the defense of the Rules Committee
in allowing such a scant limitation of
debate on the revenue bill. The speaker
made a rather mixed figure of speech which
provoked considerable quiet laughter.

He said that "since this administration
has been in power it has kept the country
oscillating between chills and fever."
(Laughter.) "We propose to stop these
chills and let the American ship right up
again on the wave, and let it out."

Further on in his speech Mr. Henderson
swore to "talk of war" and "talk of war"
he said with emphasis. "As one mem-
ber of the House said, 'The President has
here one day for an immediate declaration
of war and in three days afterwards, he
files his petition in bankruptcy.' (Laugh-
ter.)"

JUDGE TURNER yesterday afternoon, af-
ter an impassioned denunciation of the
proposed bill, was warmly applauded in
his peroration with the sentence:

"Mr. Speaker, I have nothing more to
say. The judge was naturally much gratified
by the prolonged applause which followed
his declaration, but when his attention was
called to the equivocal construction that
might be placed upon his words by the in-
surgents, he has since been wondering whether
his auditors were applauding the speech itself
or only the conclusion thereof.

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REBELS MARCH ONWARD

Removing Every Obstruction in
Their Path to Havana.

EL ROQUE EASILY CAPTURED

Spaniards Surrendered Without Firing
a Shot—Gomez's Forces Destroy
the Largest Sugar Plantation on the
Island—Telegraph Communication
Cut Off and Travel at a Standstill.

Key West, Fla., Dec. 26.—Advises re-
ceived from Cuba today say that a battle oc-
curred yesterday afternoon between the
vanguards of the insurgents and Spanish
armies and that the Spaniards were re-
quired.

Col. Prat, who commanded the Spanish
vanguard, was killed. Martinez Campos
was present and directed the retreat of
the Spaniards to Jovellanos. Campos' forces
are now entrenched at that place, ex-
pecting to be attacked by Gomez's main
army.

Campos has armed all the civilians in
Jovellanos and is forcing them to do mili-
tary duty.

Advises received by Cuban leaders via
Olivette confirm the report of the cap-
ture of the town of El Roque by Gomez, as
announced in these dispatches last night.
With Gomez were Seratin Sanchez, Aguirre
and Quiroz.

The Spanish regiment stationed at El
Roque surrendered without firing a shot.
All of them were paroled except twelve,
who were charged with having poisoned
the water in the reservoir of the town.

CONVICTED AND SHOT.
They were tried, convicted and shot.
After taking all the arms, provisions, etc.,
found in the town, the insurgents set fire
to it and then left for Jovellanos, the direction
of Quintana and Jovellanos.

They also destroyed the sugar plantations
near San Vicente and La Antonia. The
command of General forces, under the
command of Lacretie, has entered the town
of Quintana, between Matanzas and Colon,
and destroyed by fire the largest sugar
plantation on the island.

The train that left Colon for Matanzas
was detained at Quintana by the insurgents.
Columns of smoke could be plainly seen
from Jovellanos. The general supposition
is that all plantations in that district have
been destroyed.

Maceo and his forces have encamped at
the plantation of La Harmonia, and Gomez has
established his headquarters at the plan-
tation La Espana, belonging to Romero
Rodrigo, of the Spanish cabinet.

RAILROAD STATIONS DESTROYED.
All telegraph communications between
Las Villas district and Havana have been
destroyed by the insurgents, and no trains
have passed over the road since Saturday
last.

The railroad stations at Matanzas and Toca,
belonging to the United Railroad Company,
have been destroyed by fire.

The insurgents, upon learning that the
General Republican army have en-
camped at the Plantation Revidio, and de-
stroyed all the cane.

The forces of Antonio Maceo and Qui-
roz, composed the rear guard of the
army, under Gomez.

The Spaniards prohibited all public en-
tertainments on the 25th and ordered all
shops closed at 12 o'clock. At night
Laredo, with a large force, is marching
towards Guanaco.

The insurgents assert that no crops will
be gathered this year. It is said that
Gomez has notified Campos that it is
his intention to destroy all the sugar cane,
to prevent its being gathered. The sugar
being exported now is taken from the
warehouses, and is part of last year's crop.

HOUSE PASSED IT

Continued From First Page.

ing in the properties of the Secretary of
the Treasury. He had been tried in the
past and found inaccurate.

The discussion was ended for the op-
ponents of the bill by Mr. Turner. The
defeat of the income tax bill, caused a
deficit in receipts, but there was no de-
ficit, he continued, in the Treasury. "Why
should we?" he asked, "but more money of
the same kind into the Treasury when
there is more there than we need?"

There lay behind the bill, he said, a
motivation which was not apparent on its face.
A resolution of that kind, he said, was
also due to the Democratic party for
furnishing the plank upon which the bill
was framed—a plank for revenue only.

Mr. Duffell, in closing the debate, said:
"We know, and every body knows, that
the general Republican tariff law cannot be
enacted by this Congress. We do not know
that the President of the United States
would not sign the present bill for know-
ing that this law will please the present
magistrate. We had a letter from the Presi-
dent in the last session of Congress which
contains evidence that he will sign this
law, restoring a reasonable revenue duty
upon wool."

"What do we propose to do? We pro-
pose cutting severely and respectfully
upon Democratic ground for the purpose
of giving efficiency to what we do pro-
pose, by modifying certain provisions
of the act of 1893, to the effect that the
disposal of the Treasury nearly \$40,000,000,
and then we propose by an authority of law
which would always be a country like
this, to permit the orderly, economical use
of the public credit to maintain the re-
serves of the Treasury and to provide against
temporary deficiencies in the revenue."

"In closing this debate I appeal to the
patriotic sentiment that may still be sup-
posed to reside in the Democratic breast,
to come to the level to which the Repub-
lican party has come, in offering upon
revenue principles, a measure to relieve
the embarrassment and distress of the
Treasury of the United States." (Applause.)